

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 182384

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MJERABEK:SS

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EUR/SOV - MR. GARRISON

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R 012207Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 182384

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 1

1. NYT (PAGE 1) "BREZHNEV, AT PARLEY, SEES BAR TO
DICTATING TO OTHERS" BY CHRISTOPHER WREN DATELINE
HELSINKI. THIS RESTATEMENT OF A HELSINKI PRINCIPLE
COULD BAR SOVIET ACTIONS SUCH AS INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA
AND POLAND BUT MORE LIKELY WAS INDICATION THE SOVIETS
CONSIDERED HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION COULD NOT BE USED BY
WEST TO PRESS FOR LIBERALIZATION OF SOVIET BLOC
AUTHORITARIAN SOCIETIES. REDUCTION OF FORCES IN CENTRAL
EUROPE NOW A PRIORITY SOVIET GOAL. (STORY IN ALL
PAPERS)

2. NYT EDITORIAL "BREZHNEV AT HELSINKI" SEES NO
INDICATION IN SPEECH THAT HELSINKI DECLARATION WILL IN
ANY WAY RELIEVE THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS OR
VITIATE THE BREZHNEV DOCTRINE.

3. WP COLUMN BY CHALMERS ROBERTS "THE HELSINKI VENTURE"
CONSIDERS HELSINKI ANOTHER STEP IN POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT
AWAY FROM CONFRONTATION AND TOWARD COOPERATION OR DETENTE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 182384

SUMMITRY AND PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO EASTERN EUROPE
NOW ROUTINE AND DIVISION OF EUROPE MITIGATED.
FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE ALSO IMPORTANT.

4. CSM (PAGE 3) "CHINA A-MISSILE COULD HIT MOSCOW"
CHINA HAS ENTIERED FINAL STAGE OF TESTING A LIMITED
RANGE ICBM THAT COULD HIT MOSCOW. ALSO THERE ARE
PERSISTENT REPORTS RUSSIANS CONTINUE TO DEVELOP ABM
DEFENSE RADARS.

5. CSM EDITORIAL "ANOTHER SOVIET GRAIN DRAIN?"
SITUATION SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT THAN IN 1972 BUT CONSUMERS
SUSPICIOUS. SECRECY OF GRAIN DEALS AND SOVIETS
CONTINUE TO WITHHOLD CRUCIAL DATA DESPITE AGREEMENT ON
AGRICULTURE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE182384
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MJERABEK:SS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750267-0943
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750889/aaaadami.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 1
TAGS: PFOR, US, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006